

ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY COMMISSION

City of Columbia & County of Boone
Daniel Boone Building, Third Floor Conference Room

Minutes of Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Present: Barbara Buffaloe, Alyce Turner, Dick Parker, Jean Sax, Dan Goldstein, Lawrence Lile, Bob Walters

Absent: Tom O'Connor, Dillon Wyatt, David Brodsky, Michael Merkle

Guests: Steve Hunt (City Public Works) and Ben Londeree

City Staff: Stephanie Brown (Water & Light liaison)

AGENDA

The agenda was approved with minor changes.

MINUTES

Commissioners discussed the accuracy of the August meeting's minutes regarding the Sustainability Director. Mr. Goldstein brought a draft of some alternative language he wanted the Commission to consider for parts of the August minutes. After some discussion, two key changes were approved. Stephanie Brown was requested to incorporate those changes in the minutes.

CITY OF COLUMBIA SUSTAINABILITY DIRECTOR

Dan Goldstein drafted a three page report titled "Sustainability Director Position" which the Commission discussed at length. Since the previous meeting, Dan and Jean Sax had reviewed the City of Columbia's job description for the Sustainability Director (SD) as well as reviewing the same position in other cities, primarily those of Charleston, SC and Fayetteville, AR.

Jean interviewed the SD from Fayetteville AR and reported the following:

- The department is a one-person office.
- He manages or administers the grant (for the position) he also wrote
- He reports to the Mayor & equivalent to our City Manager
- His job "status" is equivalent to that of an Assistant City Manager in Columbia.

Much of the Commission discussion of the 3-page report dealt with the SD's position within Columbia's City government. Should it be comparable to an Assistant City Manager and answerable to the City Manager or should it be comparable to the City Clerk who is elected and serves at the pleasure of the Council? If the job was modeled after the City Clerk position, then changes to the City Charter would be required.

→ A motion was made and seconded to restrict this question and the language related thereto to an appendix in the report. The motion was defeated 2-5. **YES:** Parker, Lile. **NO:** Buffaloe, Goldstein, Turner, Sax, Walters.

Commissioners then provided minor comments regarding the language, grammar and clarity of the 3 page report.

➔ A motion was made and seconded to approve the *Sustainability Director Position* 3-page report. The motion was unanimously approved.

➔ Later in the meeting, a motion was made and seconded to approve a draft of a cover letter to the City Council that would accompany the 3-page report. The motion was unanimously approved.

COUNTY STORMWATER ORDINANCE

Ben Londeree briefed the Commission on Boone County's stormwater ordinance. The County has offered one public hearing on September 14 and plans another for September 21. It is then expected to be discussed at the County Planning and Zoning Commission on October 15.

With just about 20 minutes to speak, Mr. Londeree addressed how the County's ordinance compared to the City's. He advocated as much similarity as possible in order to dissuade development from fleeing the City in favor of, perhaps, weaker County criteria.

He praised a few County elements not found in the City ordinance, including better protection for sensitive land forms and areas; more attention to stream channel protection; and a proposed abeyance for County land owners who might engage in clearing/grading land areas prior to possible non-agriculture development. Using satellite imagery, regulators could compare land subject to re-zoning or City annexation to determine if improper land disturbance occurred. If so, the County could prohibit non-agriculture use of the property of 5 years.

He also reviewed a graph to illustrate the amount of runoff that occurs from land with various degrees of impervious surface. For example, he stated a "1-year storm event" on a totally impervious surface would create as much runoff as a "100-year storm event" in forest acreage of the same size.

Commissioners vowed to monitor the public hearing process and attend the October P&Z meeting if possible.

RECYCLING ISSUES

Steve Hunt addressed several topics. First he stated, the City was considering a variation of the County's abeyance plan for non-agriculture land disturbance prior to annexation. He also noted the County's land disturbance proposal on the County website, showmeboone.org.

Mr. Hunt informed the EEC he had been appointed by Public Works Director, John Glascock, to facilitate the Commission in researching and/or addressing topics within the realm of Public Works responsibilities.

Regarding recycling, Mr. Hunt provided resource material from the Mid Missouri Solid Waste Management District and the Missouri Recycling Association. He was also asked to clarify or update the EEC regarding recycling facilities at City trail access points and City parks. Some confusion surrounded the type of containers desired and lack of agreement between Public Works and the Parks Dept.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.